

COAT IS SHORTER

Three-Quarter Length Is Adopted for Sport Garment.

Colors Continue to Be Dull, but New Note Is Expressed in Brilliant Linings.

While the real long coats are still in favor for the coldest weather, the very latest models are said to be shorter. The first and foremost reason for this is that probably very few women wish to appear even a trifle wider at the bottom than at the waist. It is absolutely necessary. Another hint as to coats is the new straight line which is now suggested. Sport coats have already adopted this new form and the result is a return to the three-quarter length box coat of a few years ago.

Any real change, however, are not due for many months, and contradicting the straight-line theory comes a persistent rumor that Alsace-Lorraine is to be the next field of operations in fashions, although it is hard to see exactly where the far from artistic costume of this province can be reconciled with the present modes.

Paris fashions have always their little fling at the passing events, but spring is a long way off, and should another country come suddenly forward and a diplomatic compliment be considered due, it would upset all previous calculations. For fashion may be as fickle as she pleases in war or peace, so there is no knowing what may happen between now and springtime in fashions, which is early in February.

To return to the subject of coats: Whatever the length or width the colors continue to be dull, if not uninteresting, and this has led to the new note expressed in brilliant linings. Two good reasons for these decidedly chic linings exist. The first is as stated, that matters were becoming a bit dull, and the second reason is that there seemed no other way to use the very beautiful silks both the American and French designers were turning out. "Ladies must live," but so must designers, and there seems to be no way out of it except to admit that our designers are true artists, and sheer admiration for their work is its own excuse for using their wares.

The plainer suit or coat the more apt to be brilliant coloring in the lining. Slashes in the jackets and panels and tunics are further reasons for wishing to add a dash of color.

On a very original new suit with a rather short jacket both fur and lining contributed to the extremely clever air which it carried. The peplum of the jacket was straight and ungathered and a brilliant red taffeta lining made a strong contrast to the dull mink shade cloth. Even the high double rolling collar of the beaver fur was lined with the red, flashes of which also showed in the slashes of the peplum.

SHOP ODDS AND ENDS

Pretty little shades of colored crepe paper, cost only 25 cents and really give a soft glow to the glaring electric bulb. They are flower-like when in use, consisting of many petals, wired through the center, and all fastened to a little clamp fastener around the base of the bulb.

Along with the revived fashion for jet comes a showing in the shops of jet spangled fans. Some of them are very effective—big net fans heavily spangled with sequins of gleaming black jet.

Small platinum watches, set with diamonds, are mounted on gray velvet ribbons. The soft gray of the ribbon forms an admirable setting for the platinum of the watch.

CHIC IMPORTED HAT MODEL

This charming hat is of the taupe pressed beaver variety, the model of which has been imported into this country. The three wings that are placed high on the crown have a very interesting effect and give the hat individuality.

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GOWN FOR THE DEBUTANTE

This simple yet charming afternoon gown will be well received by the debutante. It is of navy chiffon, heavily beaded in iridescent blue and black beads. The underskirt is of black velvet.



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WINTER AND SPRING MODELS

Straight Lines and Trimmed With Fur; Jersey Cloth With Long, Tight Skirt.

Hudson seal is the most popular fur this season. Draped effects and coats of seal, trimmed faintly with squirrel, are very beautiful. Mole and beaver still hold their own.

The winter suits are very stunning. They are being shown along straight lines and trimmed with fur.

And now comes the spring suit. Fashion says it will be of jersey cloth, with a long, tight skirt.

Winter coats, box effect, are being worn now, though coats are not so popular this season, many women preferring the winter suit to be worn later with their furs.

Suits without blouses seem to be just the thing now. Instead of a waist a vestee is worn, or in some cases a dainty piece of colored silk is tucked in to give the effect.

Winter coats for the children are made of bright-colored broadcloth, with the yoke waist.

The latest novelty in neckwear is an apron slipover made of georgette. Fillet and valenciennes lace now trim the daintier waists, while for every day we have striped dainty aprons trimmed with tiny box plaits instead of the usual pin tucks.

A very popular shade this winter is: nut brown.

While hitherto black has been tabooed for the young girl, many very beautiful and youthful dresses are being shown in black velvet and black satin. Most of the dresses have just a touch of trimming.

TRICOLETTE IS NOW TO FORT

Dress Material Wins Approval for Afternoon Frocks; Good for Wear Under Heavy Coat.

Tricolette has come very much to the fore as a dress material. A number of new afternoon frocks, on the order of a very beautiful model in black tricolette which Clot brought out last season, are being sponsored by well-known American designers, and these are particularly good for wear under a heavy coat, as they do not muss and are not so bulky to distort the line of the outer garment.

Heavy coarse jersey is also being used for frocks, and there is a new fishnet jersey which has just come from Paris and which promises to have quite a vogue. Among the novelties in the more formal silks are new metal brocades, the weaves of which are replicas of the coats of mail worn in medieval days. These are interesting and distinctively new.

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TUNIC IS TO BE GIVEN A TRYOUT

New York—Some historians may know when the tunic started its career as a fundamental fashion in the clothing of the human race, but no one has stated the exact date with an attempt at accuracy, according to a prominent fashion authority.

There are many who believe that it was the first garment worn by Adam and Eve, when they realized that clothing was to be a necessity to their species. The tunic really followed the mantle, and from Elijah to William I of England is a long, long spell in history, but we know that the famous wore a mantle and the latter a tunic. Julius Caesar occupied a place in the sun between these two, but he wore a toga. Beau Brummel brought in coats and George IV, picturesque as he was in his costume, blazed the path for the ugliest clothes that the men on this planet have ever worn.

The tunic was a masculine fashion, as most garments are that women think are their own. The critics of this generation fall upon women and smite them hard for their frumpiness and frivolities, the whims and fancies of their clothing, and yet these critics are men who do not seem to realize that all the centuries of progress of the male part of the human race were given over to caprice and brilliancy in apparel, as well as to defeat and victory in arms.

War and the Primitive Tunic.

No doubt the clash of arms in France brought back to the minds of the designers the long centuries of warfare that had preceded the peace since 1870. The tunic was the fundamental part of the British warrior's costume, and the cuirass—best glittering breastplate of steel and highly polished metal—was the symbol of all fighters. So France introduced the tunic of that other and primitive warfare which she thought had gone forever, and suddenly found one August morning that it had come to her with all the cruelty of the early centuries.

She did her best to enforce this tunic into the fashions of other countries, but with small measure of success until late this autumn. After steady persistence, a trick she has in the making of all her forms of art, the least of which is fashion, she found that America had suddenly awakened to the comfort and beauty of this garment.

It is difficult to persuade American women to go without shirtwaists. They borrowed the idea of a wash shirt from man, as they have borrowed all their fashions, and they felt, and rightly so, that there is an element of cleanliness in putting next to the skin throughout the day hours a garment that can go to the tub. The tunic does not go to the tub, and the only way to keep it entirely fresh is to wear it over a long-sleeved muslin lining, which many women do.

Practical and Ornate Blouses.

The tunic and the outside blouse are one and the same thing. You may call

it a blouse, or a blouse with a peplum, or a Chinese sacque, or whatever name suits your fancy. The elemental fact is that the fashionable blouse of today hangs from shoulders to hips. It may be girlish; it may not. Its sleeves may be cut according to the fashion of William I or they may be after the manner of Dagobert of France—long and wrinkled to the wrist.

Building on this foundation, the designers in America and Paris have shown caution and economy in the winds and accepted this new blouse in such an extravagant manner that they seem to be making up for that time when they let it rest neglected in the dark corners.

The cables from Paris insist that coat suits are much smarter than one-piece frocks for the woman of fashion, and her followers, but here in America,

the example cited faded blues, with a dash of rose, were worked solid right over the lace motifs. They were stunning against the ecru ground. The idea, though, is not to spoil the whole thing by overdoing it. That is why either corner motifs or the more conservative ones at the center are suggested for embroidering.

Now and then you can pick up an inexpensive bit of lace that has a lovely thing with bureau scarfs of intricate Irish lace; in fact, any of the laces that have bold solid motifs. This is what one ingenious person did.

It was a bureau scarf that gave her the idea, one in a fairly good imitation of Irish. But she wanted a touch of color on it, and she preferred something to the hackneyed underlip. So she embroidered the conspicuous motifs at the corners of the scarf.

That may sound rather like a "tacky" thing to do. But the result was anything but that. You have heard about the dyed lace? Perhaps you have seen some. Well, the embroidered lace is vastly more effective. Still, it must be well done.

While the smart skirt this season promises to be ankle length, the necessary economy in material is reached by making it on straight and narrow lines two or three buttons unfashioned at the bottom giving the added width to facilitate walking. There will also be a tendency, by opening or closing the collars, to make an afternoon gown answer two purposes for street or house wear.

Photograph frames of white ivory compound, for the dressing table, are sold with enameled service stars or flags at the top. These come in all sizes and the price varies with the size.

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Can Be Made at Home.

It is in this department of dress that they are most brilliant. There are some dressmakers who feel that smart women will no longer order entire frocks if the enthusiasm for these brilliant accessories grow in strength. However, there is no reason for despair in that, for the tunic blouse, as it is displayed at this hour, is no mean thing to make and no poor thing to purchase. Its fabric and the ornamentation put upon it bring the cost well up beyond the average purse. But the

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STOCKING'S STORY.

"I am a stocking."

"So we are," said some of the other stockings in the bureau drawer. "But I am—well I am a stocking."

"It's worth saying again," the first stocking answered.

"We don't see why you're so proud," the other stockings said. "You're rather useless. You haven't any mate. And you're white. You're not made of a nice material. You're very coarse and strong."

"That is just what I like," said the stocking.

"You don't mind not having a mate?" the others asked.

"I don't mind in the least," said the stocking.

"And you don't mind it because you lie in the drawer doing nothing, while we are taken out and worn and washed and darned and put back again? We start in the shops, we're taken out packages and arrive at different homes."

"Next we are worn, then we are washed, mended and put with our mates back in the bureau drawer."

"You said all that before," said the white stocking.

"Well," said the other stockings, "you said the same thing twice."

"Important!" said the white one. "You're important doing nothing. Why we have the same interesting rounds—from—"

But the white stocking interrupted. "Yes, I've heard how you're worn, washed, mended and worn again. I've heard that enough times."

"Then why did you say it yourself?" the stockings asked.

"So as not to hear all of you saying it again," the white stocking answered. "Poor excuse," the stockings said. "You're not years old as I am," said the white stocking.

"We wouldn't want to be," the others said. "There comes a time in the life of every stocking when it has had enough of darning and when, in fact, there are more darnings upon it than stocking. That is the time when

"And I Am Filled for Christmas."

"We're old. We're not proud of being old, for it means that younger and newer stockings are taking our places. They're being called 'new stockings' and 'good stockings' while we're known as the 'old stockings'."

"But we've had some fun in our lives whereas you, poor old stockings, you don't do anything."

"We walk and go over the earth—not all of it but a great deal of it. We sometimes are very little when we go a-driving or a-motoring. We sometimes fall down and have a fight with the earth and we come off with a good old rip."

"Now," said the white stocking, "I've listened politely to your story, though none of it was new to me. I know all about the life of the average stocking. You say I am old. You say I am useless. You say I am coarse and entirely too strong to be a nice stocking. You would rather be beautiful for awhile even if other stockings took your place and you were left to be good and strong and last for years and years. And you pity me because I haven't a mate."

"But you don't understand. I am a Christmas stocking. I am big and strong so I can hold things—not ordinary things such as feet which any stocking could hold—but I hold toys. I have nuts and raisins and oranges and a bright penny and a doll and a game and a number of other things put in me every year. For once a year I am taken out—and that time will come soon now."

"Yes, I leave this bureau drawer and I am hung up by a mantelpiece. There I hang for several hours when there is a strange noise in the chimney, near where I am. Then there is a stamping of feet on the roof and more sounds in the chimney. Next a little soot falls down—and the family are asleep. And then appears Santa Claus, the children's great friend, and I am filled for Christmas by him. Yes, I am an honored Christmas stocking."

"And the others said they were proud to know the white stocking."

How It Happened.

Once a year the newboys of a certain district of London are taken for an outing up the Thames by a gentleman of the neighborhood, when they can bathe to their heart's content.

As one little boy was getting into the water a friend observed, "I say, Bill, ain't yer dirty?"

"Yes," replied Bill. "I missed the train last year."—Tit-Bits.

Wasn't He?

"Tut, tut, my little man," said the kind old gentleman as he came upon a forlorn young hopeless lad running over with sob, "you ain't lost, are you?"

"No—boo-hoo—sniff-sniff, but my ma is."

A Honeyed Answer.

The